



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEW RELEASE: Fox Valley Residents Charged in Marijuana Distribution Conspiracy

On August 12, 2003, Christian Stoeckert and Christopher Shelton were arraigned on federal drug trafficking charges in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Stoeckert, Shelton, and Steve Delgado were charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on August 6, 2003.

Count One of the five-count indictment charges Stoeckert, Shelton and Delgado with conspiring with each other and with others to distribute large quantities of marijuana in the Fox Valley area. The indictment alleges that the conspiracy began in approximately July of 2000, and continued until approximately June of 2003. The indictment also alleges that a number of conspirators traveled to Salinas, California, to obtain marijuana from Delgado and that, on several occasions, conspirators wired money to Delgado as payment for marijuana or the transportation of marijuana. If convicted of this charge, each defendant faces up to life in prison, as well as a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

Stoeckert is also charged with four counts of using a communication facility in aid of a felony drug trafficking offense. If convicted, Stoeckert faces up to four years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 on each of these counts.

The case was cooperatively investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration– Green Bay Office and the Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group- Drug Unit. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Gregory J. Haanstad for prosecution.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute evidence of his or her guilt. A person is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, as the government establishes his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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For Additional Information Contact:

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